

State Advisory Committee for Children with Disabilities
NH Department Of Education
March 5, 2014
Room 15
4:30-7:00pm
Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Candace Cole-McCrea, Kestrel Cole-McCrea, Daniel Ward, Maureen Tracey, Sue Marcotte- Jenkins, Kerri Lynn Kimner, Ellen Boudreau, Sarah Cooley, Heidi Cloutier, Dick Cohen, Janet Reed, Michelle Rosado, Denise Maher.

Guests: Santina Thibedeau, Alan Pardy, Lynn Clough, Jean Parsons-Newmarket Special Education Director, Gary Carpenter, individual who homeschools .

Agenda Item I: Welcome & Introductions; Approval of Minutes, Public Comment, Nomination of candidates-Maureen Tracey

- Maureen Tracey, Co-Chair, brought the meeting to order at 4:34pm and asked for member introductions.
- Two nominations for SAC membership: Gary Carpenter, from Conval District and home schools, Lynn Clough, a special education teacher from Contoocook
- Approval of February minutes: Heidi Cloutier made the motion to approve, Janet Reed seconded.

Agenda Item II: Legislative Update, Update from SAC Liaisons

- Senate Bill 414 – passed, Senate Bill 343 – passed, and Senate Bill – 396 still in revisions and a stakeholder group has been formed.
- Santina added information on what the Senate Bill 396 was all about. The question was asked; would this effect a student who went to out of state school in a school placement from New Hampshire?

Agenda Item III: Bureau of Special Education Update: Santina Thibedeau

- Santina reviewed all the types of monitoring that the bureau does under the State Performance Plan (SPP). OSEP outlines eight components that we have to monitor in our SPP ~ policies/procedures; affective implementation, affective dispute resolution, integrated monitoring activities, improvement, correction, incentives and sanctions, and fiscal monitoring of graduation rates, drop-out rates, preschool outcomes, disproportionality, ethnicity, untimeliness of evaluation, post school outcomes, and the number of complaints and resolutions with a third party moderator.
- The Bureau does trainings on Measurable Goals, understanding Written Prior Notice, Dispute Resolution, and Integrated Monitoring. Follow up is also done on all complaints and the bureau tries to recognize and address any unmet needs.

Agenda Item IV: Old Business:

- Draft committee recommendation from “Unmet Needs” subcommittee:
 - A revised recommendation was handed out and brought up for voting. Dick Cohen made a motion to adopt the revised recommendation. Sue Marcotte-Jenkins, seconded the motion. Further discussion followed. Candace Cole McCrea suggested before voting to develop a list of pros and cons about the current recommendation, then go back to subcommittee for more revising. After discussion and consideration, Dick Cohen withdrew the above motion.

- Janet Reed made a new motion to add further language to the motion (as included below). Heidi Cloutier seconded the motion ~ with vote pending at the next meeting for a membership quorum . All in favor, with two abstentions.
- The SAC recommends that the Commissioner of the NHDOE adopt and pursue a goal that all NH schools implement, with fidelity, evidenced-based multi-tiered system of supports with systems data, and practices which encompass academic, social , emotional and positive behavioral components. Examples include but are -not limited to Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS), Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) and Response to Intervention (RTI). We encourage the NHDOE Commissioner to pursue all policy and funding opportunities including federal and state grant and legislative opportunities.

Agenda Item V: New Business: Emerging Issues, Announcements, Current Events, Public Comment.

- Jennifer Bertrand (affiliated with ABLE) provided public comment-she has been working with Mike Skibee at the DRC. She reviewed the Senate Bill 396 and the use of restraints in schools. She asked if SAC could make a recommendation, or if a SAC member could provide testimony at the next hearing, or make a call to a senator.
- There was also discussion on the Department of Safety law regarding private special education schools where any staff who transports students have to be certified with bus certified transports. Equipment also needs to be up to code on a bus. This will affect programming at the schools. It is difficult to inspect the busses and to train staff. Janet Reed will pursue legal avenues to consider the impact that this law will leave. It will also affect public schools and elevate costs as well.

Agenda Item VI: Adjournment:

- Dick Cohen made a motion to adjourn and Michelle Rosado seconded the motion.
- Meeting adjourned at 6:55pm ~ Next meeting is Wednesday, April 2nd at 4:30pm in room 15 at the NHDOE.